See Page 7
For this week's exclusive offers!

Winnipeg metro

Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2016

High 31°C /Low 18°C Sunny

The roof of a condo building at 2000 Sinclair St. near Leila Avenue was torn off during a violent storm Wednesday night in Winnipeg. Head to metronews.ca for full coverage of last night's storm. SHANNON VANRAES/FOR METRO

No idea Giesbrecht pregnant: Husband

TRIAL

Lawyer for accused raises possibility of medical issue

The husband of a Winnipeg woman accused of hiding the remains of six infants said Wednesday he had no idea she was pregnant all six times, and was also unaware she had rented a storage locker where the remains were found.

"You have no idea why you would not know your wife was pregnant on those occasions?," asked Crown attorney Debbie Buors.

"No," Jeremy Giesbrecht replied in one of several one-word responses on the issue. He rarely looked at Buors and sat sideways in the witness box.

Andrea Giesbrecht was arrested in October 2014 after the remains were found in plastic containers in a U-Haul storage locker she had rented. Medical experts have testified the infants were at or near full term, were likely born alive and some were very decomposed when discovered.

The Crown has yet to suggest a motive for the alleged crime.

The judge hearing the case has also heard that Giesbrecht, 42, had several legal abortions since 1994 — her husband testified Wednesday he knew of those — and a miscarriage. The couple have two children together.

DNA evidence at the trial has linked the infants' remains to Jeremy Giesbrecht and a soiled sanitary napkin found in the Giesbrecht home, although the defence has raised questions about whether the napkin might have been used by a female other than Andrea Giesbrecht.

The Crown tried to close the door on the DNA issue Wednesday by asking Jeremy Giesbrecht whether he has had sex with anyone other than his wife since their marriage in 1999.

He said no.

Defence lawyer Greg Brodsky has raised the idea that Giesbrecht may have had a medical issue that prevented her from carrying a baby to term in the years since her last child, now a teenager, was born. Brodsky pointed to medical records Wednesday that said Giesbrecht suffered a recurring menstrual disorder.

"Do you know whether it has anything to do with the ability to deliver a live child?" Brodsky asked Gayle Martens, the executive director of Manitoba's medicare payment system for physicians.

The records would not contain that level of detail, Martens replied.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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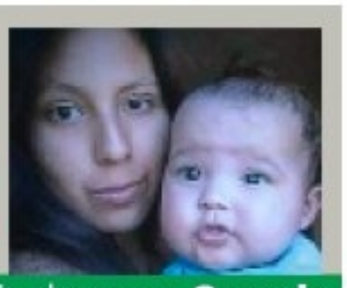


Thousands of indigenous families ineligible for child benefit cheques. **Canada**

City's crime rate rose in 2015

"I don't know what it is about the Prairies. Manitoba, Saskatchewan typically are at the high end of the scale."

— Deputy Police Chief Danny Smyth

8,398

The number of violent crimes reported in 2015, compared to 7,897 in 2014

29,708

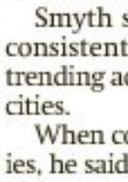
The number of property crimes reported in 2015, compared to 27,225 in 2014

1,451

Total size of the WPS sworn complement. **1,090** are white; **158** are indigenous; **107** are visible minorities; **96** not declared.

REPORT

Last year was first in a decade it was up: Police



Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Winnipeg

Winnipeg police say the crime rate has increased in our city for the first time in a decade.

That statistic was publicly revealed as a part of the service's annual report, which was released Wednesday, the same day as the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) unveiled its nationwide figures on crime.

In 2015, our police department reported a seven per cent bump in crimes from 2014.

Specifically, our city experienced a nine per cent increase in property-related crimes, and a six per cent increase in violent crimes.

"Our crime rate here in Winnipeg has been trending down for 10 years. 2015 is the first year where we've experienced a modest increase," Deputy Chief Danny Smyth said.

"It is certainly our hope that 2015 is just a short-term hiccup, and that we will continue to trend down."

Smyth said that increase is consistent with how crime is trending across other Canadian cities.

When compared to other cities, he said ours has always had higher rates of homicide, robbery and sexual assault.

"I don't know what it is about the Prairies. Manitoba, Saskatchewan typically are at the high end of the scale."

Smyth said 2015 saw a spike in the number of forcible confinement cases, 32 of which involved domestic abuse.

The police also created a new category for sex-related crimes, called the commodification of sexual activity, which includes human trafficking and prostitution, which Smyth said impacts the stats.

Last year also saw an uptick in mischief-related offences, which impacted the rates of property crimes, he added.

However, Smyth pointed out that clearance rates, which are the amount of charges laid and a more accurate indicator of police performance, are in the 90 per cent range and considered one of the highest across Canada.

Number of indigenous police mirrors Winnipeg's population: Deputy chief

Winnipeg's deputy police chief says the number of indigenous officers on the force is on par with the city's indigenous population.

Smyth said that our city has an indigenous population of roughly 11-12 per cent, which is reflected in the amount of sworn members on the Winnipeg Police Service.

The actual breakdown of that is of 1, 451 sworn officers, 1,090 are white and 158 are indigenous.

"We will continue to recruit, and continue to set goals in our recruitment so that we, if we can, surpass that 11 to 12 per cent," he told reporters during a news conference Wednesday.

Police also report 1,232 of its officers are men, while 219 are women.

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Outreach growing

HOMELESSNESS

Downtown to get more community workers

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Winnipeg's homeless will have more people looking out for them moving forward.

On Wednesday, Mayor Brian Bowman announced a $150,000 grant for the Community Homeless Assistance Team (CHAT), which connects homeless people to housing and job opportunities.

Since 2013, CHAT — run by Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone (BIZ) — has connected more than 150 people with housing, and helped 1,500 others experiencing chronic homelessness access support services.

"I'm proud we have been able to invest in the great work (CHAT) has accomplished on our city streets," Bowman said. "The CHAT program's proactive approach has been making a positive difference by helping to put individuals on track for success."

Downtown Winnipeg BIZ will be able to employ more homeless outreach workers thanks to a new grant from the city. METRO FILE

Downtown BIZ CEO Stefano Grande said the "sustained social intervention" is the only way to address the "cycle of despair often felt by our city's homeless."

"Our goal is to forge and help evolve stronger relationships, helping people who are homeless or at risk transition into healthier lives through continued outreach," he said.

Shawn Matthews, BIZ's manager of safety and development, said the CHAT program employs a "strength-based" approach.

"Instead of focusing on what people 'need,' we focus on what that person is able to bring to the table," he said. "We work closely with our clients to ensure a positive outcome that is reflective of their own aspirations and hopes."

FRINGE REVIEWS

Pleasing puppets, poignant portraits

Diamond Girls

Malia Becker hits it out of the park in this summery one-hander featuring 21 characters. Some scenes involve three people, all played by Becker, masterfully juggled, crisp and distinct.

The script explores the miracle of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, which existed from 1943 to 1954.

The players had to slide bases in mini-skirts and never show up for a game without lipstick, but were athletes of the highest order.

Rather than a rehash of the film A League of Their Own, this play brings to life Canadian prairie women who made up a disproportionate percentage of the league.

As well as playing incredible baseball, these local heroines had to negotiate the gender laws during a period that also included racial segregation and homophobia.

Diamond Girls presents nuanced, poignant portraits of players, who nonetheless needed to ask their husbands for permission to pursue their dreams. Fun, funny and brought a tear to my eye. SHAWNA DEMPSEY/FOR METRO

Space Hippo

There's no trip like a Space Hippo trip.

This completely enchanting shadow puppetry show from Seri Yanai and Daniel Wishes is trippy indeed. With Earth dying, scientists launch a hippo into space. On her journey, she encounters a host of aliens (including audience favourite Lizard Man), bonds with her only friend Food Robot, and is worshipped as a deity.

It's often silly and very weird, but is also funny as hell. Puppeteers Yanai and Wishes have great comedic timing, and manipulate more than 200 hand-cut puppets expertly to great cinematic effect.

At the core of all the silliness, though, are Yanai's stunning shadow puppets. Besides being positively giggle-inducing, Space Hippo offers up some truly gorgeous artwork.

And sprinkled with ear-pleasing, winsome tunes from Elliott Loran, Space Hippo has a great soundtrack for her cosmic journey too.

JOFF SCHMIDT/CBC MANITOBA

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Aaron Cohen, the CMHR's digital media producer, demonstrates the virtual reality experience he helped create with the use of 360-degree cameras. BRAEDEN JONES / METRO

Weaving for peace

HUMAN RIGHTS

Virtual reality exhibit brings women's craft work to life

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Most people don't get to experience Guatemalan villages firsthand, but a new virtual reality showcase at the Canadian Museum of Human Rights (CMHR) is the next best thing.

"It's like being there," said Aaron Cohen, the museum's digital media producer.

He and two other CMHR staff members travelled to Guatemala to work on a new exhibition, "Empowering Women: Artisan Cooperatives that Transform Communities."

The exhibit was developed in partnership with the Museum of International Folk Art in Santa Fe, New Mexico and opens to the public in Winnipeg on Saturday.

It examines the power of female-run artisan cooperatives and explores their role in furthering human rights, looking specifically at craft-work groups in Guatemala, India, Kenya, Morocco, Nepal, Peru, Rwanda, South Africa and Swaziland.

John Young, CMHR president, said the women forming co-ops in their countries often face serious challenges, "sometimes to their very survival," but added that the fabrics they weave and products they create "contain threads of hope for the future."

Canada's ambassador to Guatemala Deborah Chastsis said the subject of the exhibit is close to her heart.

"I can attest to the difference women can make (in human rights)," she said. "Women play a crucial role in bringing peace to their communities and their countries — what is more, economic empowerment of women can help break the cycle of violence, poverty and exclusion."

Chastsis said she's witnessed how indigenous women in Guatemala suffer "double discrimination for being women and for being indigenous."

"These women have told me a bit about how they started getting together to cook, to weave and to paint … their story and their dignity shines through in the beautiful art that they produce, a sample of which you'll be able to see in the exhibit," she said.

Oralie Chopen and Amparo de León are both members of a weaving collective in Guatemala and will be offering a demonstration of their rhythmic and colourful artistry July 23 and 24 as part of a global artisan market in the CMHR's welcome hall.

PROGRAM

Programming will be offered in-gallery daily from noon until 4 p.m. until September, including a special lecture and discussion with the original exhibit curator from New Mexico. Check humanrights.ca for updates.

AIR TRAVEL

Discount airline to collect bids on flights

Canada's newest discount airline says it will let travellers bid on unsold seats.

NewLeaf says the idea is part of a partnership with Calgary-based company Jump On Flyaways.

Roger Jewitt, CEO of Jump On, says there are a lot of airline seats that fly empty every year because airlines use complicated revenue management techniques to maximize their seat revenue.

He says Jump On's business model is to collect bids on the potentially unsold seats, and let the airlines consider the best bid.

He says it is conceivable a person could be the only bidder on a particular seat and get the flight for $1, though the company's website notes air travel partners will consider "reasonable" bids and can decline them.

Jump On opened its online portal for NewLeaf's 11 routes on July 19. The travel company's destinations include Saskatoon, Regina, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Abbotsford, Hamilton, Halifax, Kamloops, Moncton, Kelowna and Victoria.

NewLeaf is the first airline to partner with Jump On to offer seat bidding.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NewLeaf's Jim Young
STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO FILE

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Indigenous children are missing out on benefits

POVERTY

Thousands on reserves aren't eligible due to no taxes filed

Chantal Perrault and her five-month-old baby Harlow, from the Red Gut First Nation. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The first monthly Canada child benefit cheques, worth up to $533 per child, went out to more than 3 million homes Wednesday.

But because 18-year-old Chantal Perrault has never filed a tax return, her five-month-old baby Harlow is missing out.

"Wow, that is a lot of money. It would buy a lot of baby formula," she said in a phone interview from Red Gut First Nation reserve near Fort Frances, Ont., where she lives in band housing with Harlow's father, grandparents and two cousins.

Perrault is among thousands of indigenous parents on reserves who don't regularly file tax returns, and therefore aren't eligible to receive the income-based benefit aimed at lifting about 300,000 Canadian children out of poverty.

The benefit is expected to help about 8,000 indigenous children escape poverty. But 16,000 would be helped if all parents on reserve filed their taxes, The Canadian Press reported.

Indigenous children are twice as likely to live in poverty as non-aboriginal kids, according to a recent study by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, which found poverty rates among First Nations children living on reserves are about 60 per cent.

Canada Revenue Agency doesn't track the percentage of tax filers on reserve, but a small 2010 study put the number as high as 50 per cent.

Families with net annual incomes below $30,000 receive the maximum $6,400 a year for each child under age six and $5,400 per child for those from age six through 17.

> **Wow, that is a lot of money. It would buy a lot of baby formula.**
> Chantal Perrault

Numerous government departments are working together to create greater awareness of federal benefits and to held individuals file taxes, said a spokesman for Families, Children and Social Development Minister Jean-Yves Duclos, who is in charge of the program.

"Minister Duclos has discussed this issue with indigenous leaders and has asked Service Canada to reach out to indigenous communities to support access to needed documents," Mathieu Filion added, referring to social insurance numbers and birth certificates. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

FRANCE

Nice attack victim had 'so much life'

Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Misha Bazelevskyy EUROPEAN INNOVATION ACADEMY/TWITTER

Flags at MacEwan University were at half staff Wednesday in remembrance of Mykhaylo Bazelevskyy, known as Misha.

"He had his feet in every single community that he could have, whether it was athletics, student clubs, volunteering or academic endeavours," said Danika McConnell, president of the student's association.

"It seemed like everyone knew his name and knew his face, he was a leader and a friend."

Bazelevskyy, 22, was out to watch the fireworks in Nice, France last Thursday when a man plowed a 19-tonne truck into the crowd gathered to celebrate Bastille Day.

Bazelevskyy was among the 84 killed.

The Ukrainian business student was studying in Edmonton, and was in Nice for a three-week program at the European Innovation Academy, along with four other MacEwan students and a member of the faculty. All others from the school in Nice are safe.

Although he went missing immediately, his death was confirmed Tuesday by authorities.

Bazelevskyy had embraced student life at MacEwan. He worked as a resident adviser, ran for the cross-country team and served on student government.

In a statement, MacEwan president David Atkinson said the school will continue to offer any assistance they can to Bazelevskyy's family.

"There is no greater loss to a university than a student who has so much life and promise ahead of him."

Turbulent day of protest

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

17 arrested as officers face assaults: Police

Police arrested 17 people Wednesday after a melee broke out during a flag-burning in the streets outside the Republican National Convention.

It was the most turbulent protest since the four-day convention began on Monday. The chaos briefly prevented delegates and members of the media from getting into the Quicken Loans Arena for the proceedings.

Among those arrested was Gregory "Joey" Johnson, whose torching of the flag at a GOP convention three decades ago led to the landmark Supreme Court decision that said flag-burning is speech protected by the First Amendment.

Two officers were assaulted and suffered minor injuries, police said. Two of those arrested were charged with felonious assault on a police officer, the rest with failure to disperse.

Police Chief Calvin Williams said a protester whose pants caught fire got defensive when a police officer tried to put out the blaze. The man assaulted the officer, and "things escalated from there," Williams said.

The melee brought to 22 the number of people arrested during the convention, far fewer than some had feared.

"Right now, I think so far, so good," Williams said.

Carl Dix of the Revolutionary Communist Party said the group organized the burning of the American flag as a "political statement about the crimes of the American empire. There's nothing great about America."

Moments after the flag was set on fire, officers charged in to put it out with an extinguishing spray that some in the crowd thought was pepper spray because of eye irritation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A policeman carrying a U.S. flag pushes people back as an activist is arrested during a protest outside the Republican National Convention in Cleveland on Wednesday.

ANDREW CABALLERO-REYNOLDS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

DAY 3

This guy wants to be vice-president of U.S.

Michael D. Landingham

STEVEN GOETZ/FOR METRO

STEVEN GOETZ METRO'S REPORTER IN CLEVELAND

Michael D. Landingham says Donald Trump could still unite the country if he swapped his running mate Mike Pence for … Michael D. Landingham.

The Cleveland native was in the streets Tuesday talking to anyone who would listen.

"A young black man like myself there would bring people together," Landingham said. "Someone who knows about the struggles between police and African-Americans."

Landingham said the gulf between law enforcement and the black community was "a big misunderstanding on both parts because of the fear-mongering media,"

He said he wasn't sure what Trump actually stood for beyond building a wall with Mexico and opening a new investigation into 9/11.

"I want to say right off the bat, we would have to discuss some things, probably over dinner and a glass of wine so he could see inside my head, I could see inside his head," Landingham said.

Who would pick up the bill?

"I will just to, you know, but we will have to go to McDonald's."

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ATTEMPTED COUP

Turkey declares a state of emergency

Turkey's president on Wednesday declared a three-month state of emergency following a botched coup attempt, declaring he would rid the military of the "virus" of subversion and giving the government sweeping powers to expand a crackdown that has already included mass arrests and the closure of hundreds of schools.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who was accused of autocratic conduct before the insurrection, said the measure would counter threats to Turkish democracy. Possibly anticipating investor jitters, Erdogan criticized Standard & Poor's for downgrading its credit rating for Turkey deeper into "junk" status and said the country would remain financially disciplined.

The president did not announce details, but the security measure could facilitate longer detentions for many of the nearly 10,000 people who have been rounded up.

"This measure is in no way against democracy, the law and freedoms," Erdogan said in a national televised address after a meeting with Cabinet ministers and security advisers.

The state of emergency announcement needs to be published in a state gazette and lawmakers have to approve it for it to take effect, according to analysts.

Turkey imposed emergency rule in the southeast of Turkey in 1987, allowing officials to set curfews, issue search and arrest warrants and restrict gatherings as the security forces fought Kurdish rebels. The emergency rule was gradually lifted by 2002.

The president suggested military purges would continue.

"As the commander in chief, I will also attend to it so that all the viruses within the armed forces will be cleansed," Erdogan said.

In an apparent attempt to calm fears that the military's powers will be increased, the president said the military will be under the government-appointed governors' command and work closely with the regional governors.

The pro-government death toll in the botched coup was 246. At least 24 coup plotters were also killed.

Turkey also said it would close more than 600 private schools and dormitories following the attempted coup, spurring fears that the state's move against perceived enemies is undermining key institutions in the country.

Erdogan's government said it has fired nearly 22,000 education ministry workers, mostly teachers, taken steps to revoke the licenses of 21,000 other teachers at private schools and sacked or detained half a dozen university presidents in a campaign to root out alleged supporters of a U.S.-based Muslim cleric blamed for the failed insurrection. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIKILEAKS

Access to the Wikileaks website in Turkey has been blocked after the group announced, following a failed coup by the military, that it would release documents on the country's power structure.

A memorial along the Promenade des Anglais in Nice, southern France on Wednesday. CLAUDE PARIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Many victims in Nice foreigners, Muslims

FRANCE

Of 84 killed, 38 were from 19 different countries

Now that the last bodies from the Bastille Day attack have been identified by authorities, it is clear that although the carnage happened on French soil, it disproportionately affected tourists and Muslims.

Among the 84 dead, 38 were from 19 different countries, announced the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. They were from as close as Italy and Algeria and as far away as Madagascar and Brazil, and included Ukrainian citizen Mykhaylo Bazelevskyy, who had permanent resident status in Canada as a student. If the 200 wounded are included, the number of countries rises to 29, said a ministry spokesman, Romain Nadal.

No official count of Muslim victims exists, but Samy Boubakri, an imam at the Bon Voyage Mosque in Nice, says there were at least 25 Muslims from the local community among the victims. That number rises to 35 if foreign Muslims are included, he said.

> **Muslims make up only seven per cent of the population of France, but at least 30 per cent of the victims.** Samy Boubakri

"Muslims make up only seven per cent of the population of France, but at least 30 per cent of the victims of the attack," he said.

Ever since the morning after the attacks, senior members of the Islamic community have been present at the hospitals to console victims' families, lead prayers and offer counselling. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Thursday, July 21, 2016

GILBERT NGABO ON CANADA'S GOOD EXAMPLE

The immigration tradition we've built in this country is special and has made us a model for the world, but it could fall apart if we don't work to maintain it.

There's a primary school in western Berlin where certain students are obliged to come in later and leave earlier than other students.

That group is composed of children of recent immigrants, mainly refugees from Syria, Eritrea, Iraq and Afghanistan. They're members of what's known in German education circles as "welcome classes."

When I and 17 other international journalists visited the school late last month — part of a conference on an invitation from the German Federal Foreign Office to learn about the country's immigration and integration policies — a welcome-class teacher explained the bizarre scheduling: others at the school "are afraid" of the unknown. Because the new kids are immigrants and don't speak German yet, they're completely separated from other students at school, to avoid any potential conflicts.

To me, that stood in contrast to what integration efforts look like in Canada. In Toronto, I've met with and reported on Syrian refugees, and I've seen how kids thrive studying and socializing with other children. The welcome-classes suggested to me that the immigration tradition we've built in Canada, which is special and has made us a model for the rest of the world, could fall apart if we don't work to maintain it. If separating schoolchildren could become necessary in Germany — a prosperous liberal democracy whose population is 20 per cent recent immigrants, a country that has opened its doors to about a million Syrian refugees — it could happen here.

There are dangerous sentiments in this country, and we do ourselves no favours by ignoring them.

Having lived in Toronto for the past six years, I'm used to seeing a true picture of multiculturalism. Stand at any corner of the downtown street, and you're likely to see Asian, black, Indian, Caucasian or Arab people. That isn't a common sight on a Berlin street. Every time I took a stroll around, it was easy to feel like a stranger, except once when I stumbled upon a group of guys watching soccer at a makeshift beach on a sidewalk, which I quickly joined. Sports has a way of easing things. How uncomfortable would a Syrian male, who speaks no German and no English, feel on such streets?

A woman holds a placard during a Pegida demonstration in February. Far-right movements are ascendant all over Europe. AP

Other factors would create discomfort, too. In Dresden, a city 200 kilometres south of Berlin, a radical movement, Pegida, is ascendant. Known for its inflammatory rhetoric against what its ringleaders call "Islamization" of the West, the group has, since its modest Facebook launch in 2014, attracted hundreds of thousands of active followers on its social media. Every Monday morning, no less than 2,000 people storm the city's streets, spreading xenophobic and Islamophobic messages: "Stop Islamization of Europe." "Rape culture is being imported." "Stop the invasion." "Refugees, go home."

If you want to dismiss them as just a bunch of rogue members of the society, think again. Political science professor Werner Patzelt of Dresden Technical University, who recently published a book about the movement, believes Pegida has grown as a result of the country's failure to secure social coherence on immigration and integration matters. He says Pegida has derived even more legitimacy, in the eyes of ordinary citizens, from the growing number of terrorist attacks, especially when someone of an immigrant background is involved. The fear produced by the attacks is powerful.

And the fear lives here, too. Yes, it's true that when Canada recently worked around the clock to bring in 25,000 Syrian refugees, the policy was met internally with more public applause than criticism. And it's also true that my fellow delegates at the week-long conference in Germany marvelled when I told them of the many local community initiatives working to make refugees feel welcome and fully integrated in Canada. But what I didn't mention there were the occasional racist incidents: a hijab-wearing woman being assaulted, a mosque being torched, people being told to "go back" wherever they came from.

By and large, we do a great and enviable job of making immigrants feel welcome, but we don't always do a great job of admitting, either to ourselves or to the rest of the world, the ways in which we fall short. We may not have politicians openly calling for the building of an actual border wall or the deportation of Muslims. We may not have schools openly cordoning off refugee students from other kids. We may not have large public assemblies against immigration. But there are dangerous sentiments in this country, just as there are anywhere else, and we do ourselves no favours by ignoring them.

There's no reason why what is now a small, hateful minority could not, under certain circumstances, or given a certain chain of events, gain wider influence. Terrorist attacks on our own soil, an uptick in homegrown radicalization, a Trump presidency south of the border — any or all of these could have negative impacts on Canada's overall attitude towards immigration.

It's up to every one of us to continue maintaining a uniquely Canadian system that is the envy of the world.

Gilbert Ngabo is a reporter for Metro Toronto

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

For indigenous women, the pain of daily life can't be conveyed in statistics

Last month, on June 8, a new and much-lauded survey charted what one indigenous activist called "a growing awareness" among Canadians of indigenous issues.

"Sympathy for aboriginals rising: survey" read The Globe and Mail's headline, adding that three quarters of Canadians want to "see social and economic disparities addressed."

That same day, news broke in Calgary of body parts found in a park. They would turn out to be part of the remains of Joey English, a 25-year-old indigenous woman.

Police have not ruled her death a homicide. Instead, a man, Joshua Jordan Weise, stands accused of offering an indignity to human remains. It's alleged English died in his home and he dismembered her body and sought to hide it. Police have not yet said how she died.

Stephanie, English's mother, says she feels betrayed by the justice system. She criticized the prosecutor for allowing Weise out on bail and she's launched a "Justice for Joey English" group.

"There is no compassion to how it's being done," she told me. "I honestly believe if we were white, our case would have been dealt with and we would have closure."

She still has not received her daughter's remains, in order to bury them.

And while she has praise for Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi, Stephanie says she was "brushed away" by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau when she tried to tell him about her daughter's case at an event in Calgary over the weekend.

"I don't need his apologies. He can give those to my mother and the ones who went to residential school. What he can do is really look at my granddaughter, and ask if this is going to happen to my granddaughter when she grows up."

The loss in the English family has been great. Joey's sister died of what police deemed suicide. Two other family members were murdered, and two more died from suicide, according to Joey's cousin, Brailon English. Stephanie told me she believes her daughter would still be alive if she'd received more help to treat an addiction.

"Now I sit in that category where my girls are statistics," she says. "That is so heartbreaking."

Statistics — of violence, incarceration, education, health and poverty of Canada's Indigenous — are often what we see. Individual stories don't often break out into the national consciousness. Joey English has not been a national news story. But she and her family are part of the actual lives and pain that we choose to talk about in numbers, a tactic that defangs, sanitizes, and silences their stories.

Their stories are one to listen to, carefully. They tell not just of suffering but of well-earned distrust.

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She said yes: Supermodel Miranda Kerr is engaged to Snapchat co-founder and CEO Evan Spiegel

LGBTQ fiction with a twist

LITERATURE

Canadian fan authors find mainstream success at last

Genna Buck
Metro Canada

For years, Michelle Osgood spent her weekends and evenings writing online stories based on the MTV series Teen Wolf, dreaming of getting published one day.

Then the 27-year-old full-time secretary visited a friend's cute apartment. She started thinking about the kind of character who would live there — and her first original work of fiction was born.

The resulting novel, The Better to Kiss You With, came out in April. It shares elements with her fanfiction: It's a Vancouver-set paranormal lesbian romance, with plenty of werewolves.

"I probably would not have even tried a mainstream publisher," Osgood said.

She turned to Interlude Press, which was founded specifically to help writers like her, with a following online, to cross over to the broader world of books.

Veteran ghostwriter and editor Annie Harper started Interlude in 2014 with two fellow superfans she met on Tumblr, reading and writing fanfiction based on the TV show Glee.

She got the idea at a conference after an executive from Simon & Schuster said fanfiction was telling publishers what people want to read, but aren't getting — that it's a harbinger of literary trends to come.

Interlude doesn't print fanfiction scrubbed of references to source material, à la Fifty Shades of Grey. Its stories draw from the traditions of fanfiction: LGBTQ romance, references to geek culture and, in the works for adults, a fair amount of explicit sex.

"Fanfiction authors tend to take greater risks. They have so much freedom," Harper said. "A lot of authors with deals are frequently told to diminish or downplay LGBTQ characters."

All Interlude books have LGBTQ themes of some sort, and though the stories contain their fair share of angst, the publisher has a happy-endings-only policy.

The company's young-adult imprint, Duet, recently partnered up with the suicide-prevention charity The Trevor Project on an initiative to get 1,000 copies of The Rules of Ever After, one of its most acclaimed titles, into libraries around the U.S.

Positive LGBTQ stories that don't dwell on sexuality are incredibly important to young queer people, but libraries often don't stock them because they seem to rarely get checked out, Harper explained. Librarians tell her that's not the case: Because of stigma, people read the books in the library, or sneak them out without stopping at the desk.

"Coming-out stories are great, but every story shouldn't' have to be a coming-out story," says Interlude author Naomi MacKenzie, 38, a former photographer who lives with her two teenage sons in Mississauga, Ont.

MacKenzie's young adult novel Lodestones, inspired by her childhood in rural New Brunswick, is a comedy with a huge cast of diverse characters and a romance between two men.

She has written fanfiction for more than a decade, mostly in the worlds of Glee and Harry Potter, but this was her first experience of a rigorous, and she says somewhat tedious, editing process that made her book better.

Osgood, on the other hand, studied English in university and said she "doesn't mind red pen" all over her work.

She's already at work on a sequel. All she'll say about it now is, "It involves a character who shows up at the end."

READ IT

Interlude books available from Canadian authors

The Better to Kiss You With by Michelle Osgood, $19.50
Deanna Scott is geek girl. She has a job moderating a mobile role-playing game about werewolves and a crush on her beautiful, butch upstairs neighbour Jamie. Then one of the game's players starts bombarding her with increasingly threatening messages: "I'm a real werewolf and your game is offensive." Deanna thinks he's just some sad guy with an internet connection. But Jamie knows something she doesn't.

Lodestones by Naomi Mackenzie $20.95

Summer Love (short story collection) by various authors including Winnipegger H.J. Coulter, $20.95

Interlude Press, which has its roots in fanfiction but has grown into a bricks-and-mortar publisher, prints positive LGBTQ stories by authors from around the world, including Canadians Naomi MacKenzie and Michelle Osgood. CONTRIBUTED

> **There are so many great fanfiction authors out there who have trouble getting recognition from publishing houses.**
> Michelle Osgood, novelist

GRAPHIC NOVEL

Compelling but tough to read

Plutona
BY: Jeff Lemire, Emi Lenox and Jordie Bellaire
PUBLISHER: Image Comics, 154 pages, $16.99

Mike Donachie
Metro | Canada

Sometimes a book is hard to read, but compelling at the same time. That's the feeling with Plutona, the tough-yet-tremendous new collection from Image.

It's based on a weird idea. Five kids from the suburbs find the body of Plutona, their city's greatest superhero, lying in the woods.

Unsurprisingly, they don't know what to do. But the events that follow are include several surprises, some of them pretty dark.

The story switches between superheroic hyperbole, for flashback scenes of Plutona, and affecting, ordinary exchanges between the kids as they try to cope with the grim event.

It's all good, but the parts with the children are superb.

As with books like Essex County and Sweet Tooth, Canadian writer Jeff Lemire gives us a story that's full of emotion but doesn't feel in any way overwhelming.

He's a master at this, and the beautiful work of the art team makes this trade paperback, which collects the five-part mini-series for the first time, a special package.

BOOK BRIEF

Gay Ecuadorian author overcomes barriers and publishes novel

As a deaf and gay student in Ecuador, Cesar Baquerizo was bullied and a victim of societal prejudice.

Now, after five years of writing, Pen Name Publishing has released his first novel in English, A Safe Place With You.

The book talks about homosexuality in Ecuador in the '80s, when it was illegal.

"I want to move readers through my words, so they can put themselves in LGBT people's shoes and feel like they are there, in the novel, with my characters," Baquerizo, 30, told the AP in a recent interview.

The book follows a young man named Tomas Diaz and his newly found friends at a conversion therapy clinic in Ecuador, where their families have sent them to "treat" their homosexuality. There, patients are given pills and suffer psychological abuse.

A Safe Place With You was inspired by true events though it is not a memoir.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

What to do when you move to Washington?

INTERVIEW

Writer Jennifer Close pulls from own life in new novel

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

As the Republican Convention in Cleveland dominates headlines and late-night talk-show chatter, for many Washington, D.C., politicos currently working for President Obama, the event marks another kind of personal milestone.

Regardless of who is elected the next American president in October, many staffers will be leaving their jobs, or the city, or politics altogether. Washington author Jennifer Close compares the feeling in the Capitol right now to senior year in college.

"There's a lot of nostalgia already happening, and so many goodbye parties," says Close. "It's the feeling of 'this is the end,' and a whole new group of people will come in, which is so weird about the city."

Close's observations of living in Washington, D.C., are at the centre of her entertaining new novel, The Hopefuls.

After the release of her debut novel, Girls in White Dresses, about a tight-knit trio of women in search of happily ever after, Close had a hard time convincing people that the book wasn't a thinly veiled personal story. With The Hopefuls, she is open about her inspirations: the city and people of Washington.

After Close, a former Condé Nast editor, left New York for D.C. to support her husband as he worked on Barack Obama's first presidential campaign, she found the transition to the new city difficult.

But while she initially disliked her new home and its dominating political culture, she also found it fascinating. And so she began writing a story about a group of characters living in the world's most powerful city, which would eventually become The Hopefuls.

"The first thing I wrote for the book is a rant about how much the character hates D.C.," Close says.

Jennifer Close, who lives in Washington D.C., took from her own experience moving from NYC to the U.S. capital for The Hopefuls. CONTRIBUTED

"I think that was really therapeutic for me."

The book's protagonist, Beth, is also a journalist who follows her politically ambitious husband, Matt, to the Capitol. Beth has a long checklist of things she hates about the city: the relentlessly humid weather, the uniform Ann Taylor dresses, the driving culture and the lack of decent bodegas.

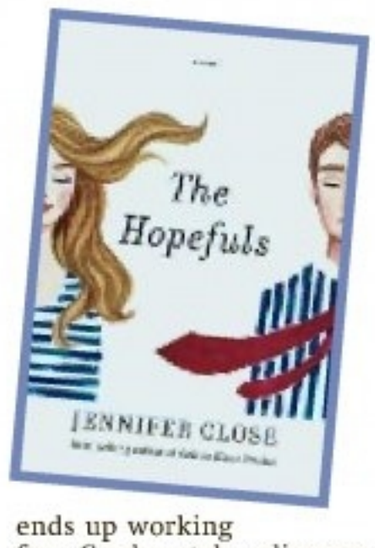
Most of all, she is both bored and frustrated with the fact that it's impossible to have a social conversation that doesn't involve politics or BlackBerries.

> **It's the feeling of 'this is the end,' and a whole new group of people will come in, which is so weird about the city.**
>
> Jennifer Close on the pre-election feeling in the U.S. capital

Beth is inches away from a full-on meltdown when they meet charismatic White House staffer Jimmy, and his wife Ashleigh.

The two couples immediately bond, but when Matt becomes Jimmy's campaign manager, ego and ambition creeps into the friendship.

Close's own transition was not as painful as Beth's, in part because she began teaching creative writing at George Washington University (Beth ends up working for a Gawker-style online gossip magazine). She also met a group of women from outside the political circle, and found support in fellow non-political spouses. Even though six years later, she now thinks of Washington as home, she knew her book needed to capture her original outsider's perspective.



"I was really interested in this world," Close says. "A lot of people will never get to see it."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

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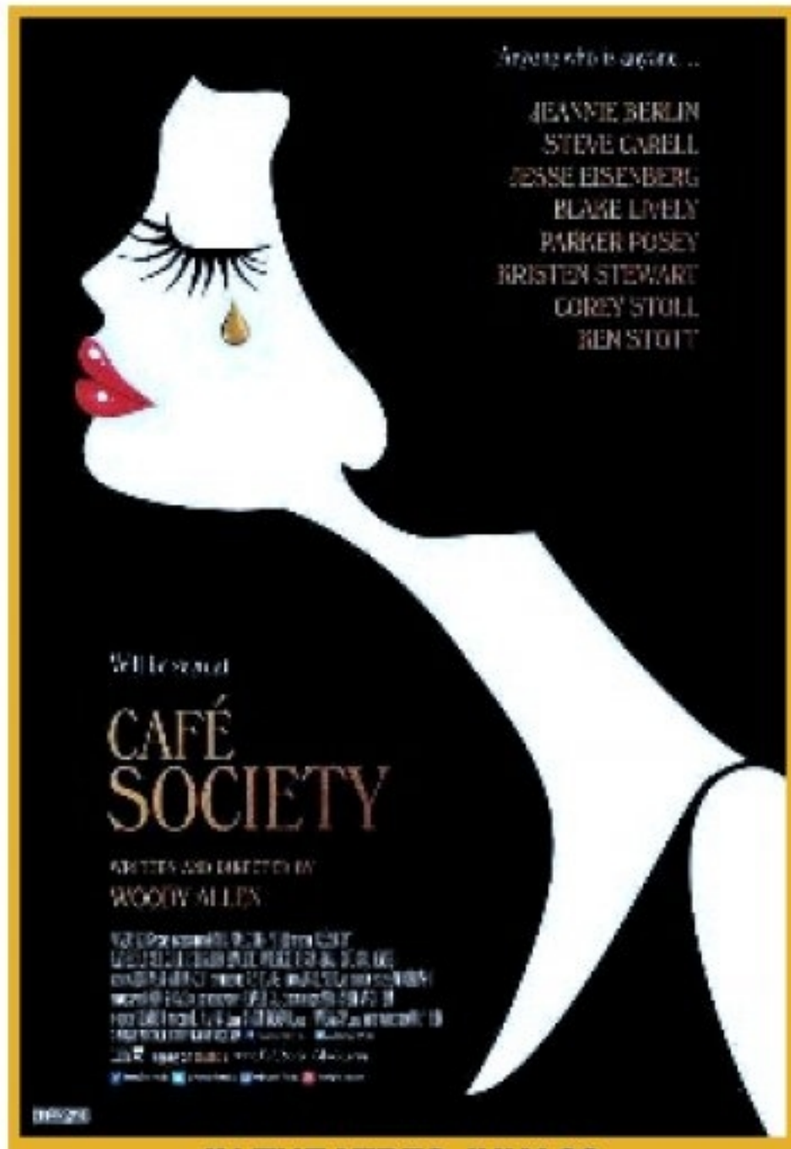

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Baby drama afoot in Real Housewives of Toronto

SCANDAL

Bellamar claims C-section schedule conflict led to canning

Shinan Govani
Torstar News Service

"I'm nine months pregnant, and I'm going to be picketing in my Louboutin heels," Ariane Bellamar tells me. "I will not be bullied."

Hell hath no fury like a Housewife scorned, and this one is livid. Dismissed from her post on Toronto's most anticipated reality series The Real Housewives of Toronto — by lawyers via email near the tick of midnight on Friday — the actress-model, 38, is also shining light on a show whose details have been kept secret until now. The reason for Bellamar's termination from the 2017 Canadian spin-off of a franchise with monster-tentpoles in New York, Atlanta and Orange County, Calif.?

It is, she says, because the date of her scheduled delivery by Cesarean section changed. Originally placed in the Google Calendar for August 9 — which the producers knew when she was hired this spring — doctors moved the surgery to August 1, telling her the baby had dropped into position and it would be too dangerous to wait.

What that meant, she says, is that the birth of her child with Texas businessman husband Tanner Slaught would conflict with a ladies trip to Muskoka that the show's production team was preparing to shoot. Bellamar immediately informed producers about the change. The following night, she was axed.

"Is this a joke?" she asked Grant Fraggalosch, the executive producer of the Lark Productions-made show, in an email. Her pleas were forwarded to lawyers.

Lark Productions has not responded to queries from the Star.

"I'm supposed to be decorating my nursery right now," Bellamar says. In front of cameras! Instead, she's making calls to her own lawyers and considering a lawsuit. (Worth nothing: firing or demoting a woman because she is pregnant is contrary to the Ontario Human Rights Code.)

Bellamar was raised in Hamilton, and has a daughter, Emma.

She has reality TV experience (she starred on the reality series, Beverly Hills Nannies), a knack for drama (a quarrel with her millionaire CEO ex-boyfriend Patrick Henry landed her in tabloid of The Daily Mail in 2014) and was born to screech "I'm done!", like every Real Housewife in every city does at some point. (Bellamar's resume also includes porn — movies like The Curse of Medusa.)

Ariane Bellamar claims she was dismissed from Real Housewives of Toronto because her scheduled Cesarean section conflicted with filming of a ladies trip to Muskoka. CONTRIBUTED

"I was supposed to be the fire-starter on the show," she says. "I'm very candid." Most importantly (and the reason, I think, so many bona fide socialites in Toronto turned down offers to do the show), "I'm willing to say things because I don't have the connections here," Bellamar says.

"My whole arc" — no surprise that reality shows have "arcs"! — involved "coming back home" and attending the premiere of the movie Suicide Squad, starring Jared Leto. Bellamar has a small part in the film, which was shot in Toronto.

On the show, her entree into the city's society sphere was to be facilitated by her cosmetic surgeon, the celebrated Dr. Stephen Mulholland, whose wife, Ann Kaplan Mulholland, is a part of the cast, too.

Bellamar says producers were so keen on her pregnancy, they'd already had conversations about her post-baby plot-lines. "They're were talking about filming me getting wasted...for the first time after the baby. I told them, 'I'm going to be breast-feeding!' "

> **I'm going to be picketing in my Louboutin heels**
> Ariane Bellamar

Asked if there might be a reason for her termination, other than her delivery date, and Bellamar shrugs. "I don't know. Maybe it's one of the other Housewives. Maybe they're jealous." (For this line alone, I feel like Bellamar should be immediately re-hired.)

Bellamar says she gave up multiple TV projects to secure this role, and now feels stuck in Canada. "I moved a pretty house. I bought a Maserati. I adjusted my whole life. ."

She continues. "To make matters worse, my husband is in the process of moving his businesses to Toronto but can't legally do so until his visa clears ...I lost my income, my husband cannot work in Canada yet, and we cannot change this situation until the baby is able to travel. ."

"When I was with RHOT we had hospital and grand visiting experiences planned, but like the show, those are also gone."

The icing on the cake, she says, is that producers wanted to document her family's move to Toronto, "which included painting, moving boxes, moving in furniture...completing my nursery because the storyline wanted my husband's character to be developed into the 'stay at home dad' whom (sic) was going to decorate, furnish, and prepare the nursery. It is disheartening to walk around my incomplete house, which is still in the condition that Lark wanted it to be for filming."

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6	1	8	3	7	4	2	5	9
7	3	5	2	1	9	8	4	6
1	5	3	7	4	2	9	6	8
8	7	2	1	9	6	4	3	5
9	4	6	8	3	5	1	7	2

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GOSSIP

Gaga and fiance are 'taking a break'

Lady Gaga and her fiance, actor Taylor Kinney, are on a break.

A representative for the singer said on Tuesday that the couple is "taking a break." Gaga confirmed the news with an Instagram post early Wednesday morning.

"Taylor and I have always believed we are soulmates. Just like all couples we have ups and downs, and we have been taking a break," she posted along with a photo of the couple with their shoulders around one another. "We are both ambitious artists, hoping to work through long-distance and complicated schedules to continue the simple love we have always shared. Please root us on. We're just like everybody else and we really love each other."

Gaga and Kinney, a star on the NBC series Chicago Fire, were engaged last year on Valentine's Day. They met in 2011 on the set of the pop star's You & I video.

Gaga, 30, currently is working on her next solo album.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

metro HOME
Your essential daily news

Originally listed for $18.5 million U.S., 50 Cent's Connecticut mansion drops to less than $6M

Generation hands on

Shazeen Bandukwala works on dovetails for her box project at The Unplugged Workshop, a class for urban dwellers who like to get their hands dirty. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DIY

Millennials increasingly attracted to woodworking

On a muggy June night, the sounds of gentle sawing and pounded mallets ring through a white-walled workspace lined with handsaws, chisels, jack planes and planks of wood — cherry, oak, poplar.

Mumford and Sons' first electric album, Wilder Mind, spins on a record player as amateur woodworkers hunch over their workspaces, carefully measuring and chiselling out joints for their Unplugged Woodshop class project — a basic box.

In this Wednesday night class, half of the six participants are millennial city-dwellers. It's a demographic increasingly drawn to maker culture — and woodworking, specifically — as a way to escape mundane desk jobs and feel the satisfaction of working with their hands, say local woodworkers. Retired suburbanites are out, it seems, and young downtowners are in.

Max Lantz, 29, is among that younger cohort taking the box-making class at Unplugged Workshop in Toronto. He works in advertising right now — it's "extremely unfulfilling," he says — and wants to shift gears into woodworking for a career. The craft is more tactile, he notes, while he saws out the dovetail joints that will later join together to secure the sides of his oak box.

"The work that you do is of great practical value, either to yourself or someone else," Lantz adds. "And I don't get that sense when I spend 40 hours a week staring at a two-dimensional computer screen."

Those are the type of young people drawn to the Unplugged Woodshop, a hand-tools-only space in an ivy-covered warehouse in Toronto, according to owner Tom Fidgen. "They have a day job that usually sees them sitting at a computer, or at a desk, or just sitting," he says.

Fidgen builds custom furniture, teaches woodworking classes around the world and has written two books on the subject. Five years ago — long before the Jan. 1 launch of the Unplugged Woodshop — he started noticing growing interest from a younger demographic. A decade ago, that wasn't the case. "Most of my clients were, to be frank, retired old white dudes who'd come over to talk about tools," says Fidgen.

Alongside the woodworking classes popping up in recent years, there is also a push to make tools and spaces more accessible for city-dwellers. It's something the Tool Library in Toronto is tapping into. The first location launched in 2013, and since then, three more spots have popped up — allowing people to borrow tools, from hammers and chisels to pressure washers and generators, just like they would from a library.

The main demographic of the Tool Library's roughly 28,000 users is in their early 20s to early 40s, says its co-founder, Lawrence Alvarez.

He attributes the popularity of woodworking and other types of maker culture to its ability to empower young people.

"In some ways, we lack a lot of control in terms of job selection, places to live — you get priced out of markets — but there are some things you can control." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> **The work that you do is of great practical value, either to yourself or someone else.**
> Max Lantz, 29, woodworking student

REINVENTION

There's also a renewed appreciation among young people for handmade goods, says Tom Fidgen of Unplugged, and the magic of woodworking is at the forefront of the trend. "To take something like a tree and cut it into pieces and then expect to flatten those pieces and stick them back together in some weird shape, it's a big stretch," he says. "We've been doing it for thousands of years, but it still amazes me."

TRENDS

High hopes for micro apartments

New York City's first "micro" apartment complex is open for business, challenging the limits of minimalist living. What the tiny dwellings lack in square footage, they try to make up for in amenities.

Carmel Place, a 55-unit complex that opened this summer in the Kips Bay neighbourhood of Manhattan, represents the first time in decades that the city has allowed apartments to be built this small — ranging from 260 to 360 square feet. That's roughly the equivalent of a one-car garage.

It's the latest entry in a national trend toward smaller urban housing. The rise in single-person households — now nearly a third of New York City's households — and ever-higher rents led the city to approve the experimental project. Carmel Place got city land and a waiver from New York's 400-square-foot minimum on new apartments, set in 1987.

Frank Dubinsky of Monadnock Development, which built Carmel Place along with the Lower East Side People's Mutual Housing Association, said there would probably be more new micro-apartments in New York soon.

Compared to other modern buildings in its neighbourhood, Carmel Place offers relatively modest rents, and services and amenities — such as multi-functional furnishings — that are aimed at making small-scale living a little easier. Architectural elements like eight-foot windows and nearly 10-foot ceilings are also meant to make small spaces more livable.

The complex of services and amenities were put together by a company called Ollie, its name inspired by the words "all inclusive."

"Just because people need a living room and a bedroom doesn't mean they need a designated living room and a bedroom. They just need the functionality of both rooms," explains Chris Bledsoe, co-founder of Ollie, which did design work on the apartment interiors as well. The firm nArchitects designed the interior and exterior of the building. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Carmel Place, an apartment complex in Manhattan's Kips Bay neighbourhood, has units that range from 260 to 260 square feet but have 10-foot ceilings. HANDOUT

metro SPORTS

Two-time Stanley Cup winner Brad Richards has retired with 298 goals and 634 assists in 1,126 games

Bombers best to go for broke on offence

VIEW FROM THE 300S

Andrew 'Hustler' Paterson

Quarterback Drew Willy is feeling the heat these days from both opposing defences and Bomber Nation. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tonight at steamy Investors Group Field, Drew Willy and the Winnipeg Blue Bombers have another chance to get back on track against the Calgary Stampeders.

With a 1-3 record entering tonight's game, the Bombers have had their moments, but not enough of them — as was illustrated in a 20-16 home loss last week at home against Edmonton.

In that game the Bombers had plenty of opportunity to win, but ended up on the wrong side of the scoreboard after the Bombers offence struggled and only put up three points in the second half.

Not surprisingly, quarterback Drew Willy has been hearing it from fans and the pressure is squarely on the Winnipeg field general to get the offence going, and fast.

Willy's stats on the surface actually seem pretty good. His 72 per cent completion rate and 1,239 yards passing are second in the CFL. Unfortunately much of these numbers have been put up in garbage time and the big plays haven't been there when the Bombers have needed them most. The key stat is one in the win column for the team.

I don't know Willy well but have always enjoyed speaking with him. It's obvious he is very dedicated and truly cares about the Blue Bombers and the long-suffering fans in Winnipeg. The losing has been killing him. I don't think anyone wants to win more than Willy, but that might be part of the problem.

The miserable recent history of the club hangs over the franchise like a thick fog and the Bombers came into the season with a win-or-else situation. It's a lot of pressure on a team and especially on the quarterback with such close ties to these individuals who are in the crosshairs.

There is a huge responsibility as a CFL starting QB, but if there is any fear of failure in Willy it has to go now. If the Bombers are going to start winning more games it will not be because of a symbolic axe waiting to be swung on coaches and players.

Paul LaPolice will play a big part in this turnaround. His new offence has relied so far mainly on shorter passes and ball control. The big task now for LaPo is to unleash a more potent attack down the field and restore any lost confidence in his QB.

Willy has shown he can be a very good quarterback in the CFL. We all saw last year how different the Bombers were with and without him on the field. Only four games into a season with a new OC and coming off a serious injury, maybe all this talk about Willy is way premature. But there is no doubt the Bombers need much more from their offence and it all starts with No. 5.

Let's hope Willy and the Bombers can ignore the pressure and angry fans tonight and just go out and play a quality and disciplined game. Take some chances on offence. Let 'er rip and chuck it deep. Go for broke. Better to lose taking your best shot than holding back for fear of making a mistake.

'Fans are fickle, and that's what they are'

Drew Willy shrugged off criticism about his role in the Blue Bombers' struggling offence, saying it comes with the territory.

"That's how it goes as a quarterback," Willy said after Wednesday's walk-through to get ready for Thursday's home game against the Calgary Stampeders.

"I've seen a lot of things over my professional career, whether I was the backup or whether I was on practice squad or whether I was the starter.

"I've seen some of the best quarterbacks to have ever played the game go through some stuff."

The "stuff" Willy is going through this season has already included boos from his hometown fans and calls for backup Matt Nichols as the CFL team sits with a 1-3 record.

Willy said he gets a lot of support from other quarterbacks around the league.

"It's kind of a small fraternity. (We) kind of talk about things by yourselves that maybe the outside doesn't understand."

26.7

The number of points Mitchell and Calgary's offence are averaging this season.

Calgary quarterback Bo Levi Mitchell said he hasn't personally talked to Willy about the topic, but he knows how the tide can turn.

"Fans are fickle, and that's what they are," Mitchell said. "They love you for a minute, they hate you the next. They can't wait for the next guy to come up because (it's) a new changing face.

"To Drew, I would just say, 'Stay confident. Be the guy you are and just keep playing football.'" THE CANADIAN PRESS

MCLAREN REPORT

Russia expects final decision by Sunday

Russia's top Olympic official expects a final decision by Sunday on whether the entire Russian team will be banned from next month's Games in Rio de Janeiro over allegations of state-sponsored doping.

The International Olympic Committee said its executive board will meet via teleconference on Sunday to consider the issue, but added that a final decision was expected "within the next seven days."

The IOC is examining the legal options of a blanket ban following a report by World Anti-Doping Agency investigator Richard McLaren that accused Russia's sports ministry of overseeing doping of the country's Olympic athletes.

"The issue will be finally resolved by the end of this week, probably on Sunday," Russian Olympic Committee president Alexander Zhukov said Wednesday at a meeting of the ROC.

The Court of Arbitration for Sport will issue its verdict Thursday on Russia's appeal to overturn the IAAF ban on its track and field athletes for the Games. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NO BOYCOTT

Regardless of how the various doping-related cases turn out, Zhukov said a Russian Olympic boycott was out of the question.

MLB

Blue Jays bats rattle snakes down chute

Edwin Encarnacion reacts after hitting a home run on Wednesday in Phoenix. CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES

Josh Donaldson and Edwin Encarnacion each hit two-run homers and the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 10-4 on Wednesday.

Donaldson's homer off Patrick Corbin landed in the Chase Field swimming pool in the first inning. Encarnacion's soaring shot off Daniel Hudson, projected at 471 feet, landed far down the walkway beyond the left field seats in the eighth.

It was Encarnacion's 26th home run of the season and ninth in his last eight games at Chase. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Canada women top China
Teenage midfielder Jessie Fleming scored a highlight-reel goal in the sixth minute to give Canada a 1-0 win over China on Wednesday in Paris in its penultimate outing before the Rio Olympics. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Caps, Johansson strike deal
The Washington Capitals narrowly avoided arbitration with Marcus Johansson, re-signing the forward to a $13.75 million, three-year contract. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Anti-doping lab given OK for Rio Games
The World Anti-Doping Agency said Wednesday it has reinstated the laboratory that will carry out drug testing for the Rio Olympics.

The lab was shuttered last month for what WADA called "nonconformity with International Standard for Laboratories."

Olivier Niggli, director general of WADA, said in a statement the lab would be running "optimally" when the Olympics open on Aug. 5. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RECIPE Chicken Chili Burger

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Even if you're rushed, do not skip the crema on this zesty burger.

Ready in
Prep time: 20 minutes
Total time: 45 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 1 clove garlic, minced really fine
- 1/2 red onion, minced fine
- 1 tsp cumin
- 1 Tbsp chili powder
- Pinch of salt and pepper
- 1 egg, whisked
- 1 lb ground chicken
- 4 thin slices of cheddar
- 3/4 to 1 cup guacamole
- Lettuce, tomato and whatever else you like on a burger
- 4 buns

Crema
- 1 small (250 ml) container of sour cream
- 1/4 cup fresh lime juice
- 1/4 cup fresh cilantro, chopped
- Pinch of salt and pepper

Directions

1. In a bowl, stir together the Crema ingredients. In a large bowl, combine ground chicken, garlic, onion, cumin, chili powder, egg, salt and pepper. Shape into patties.

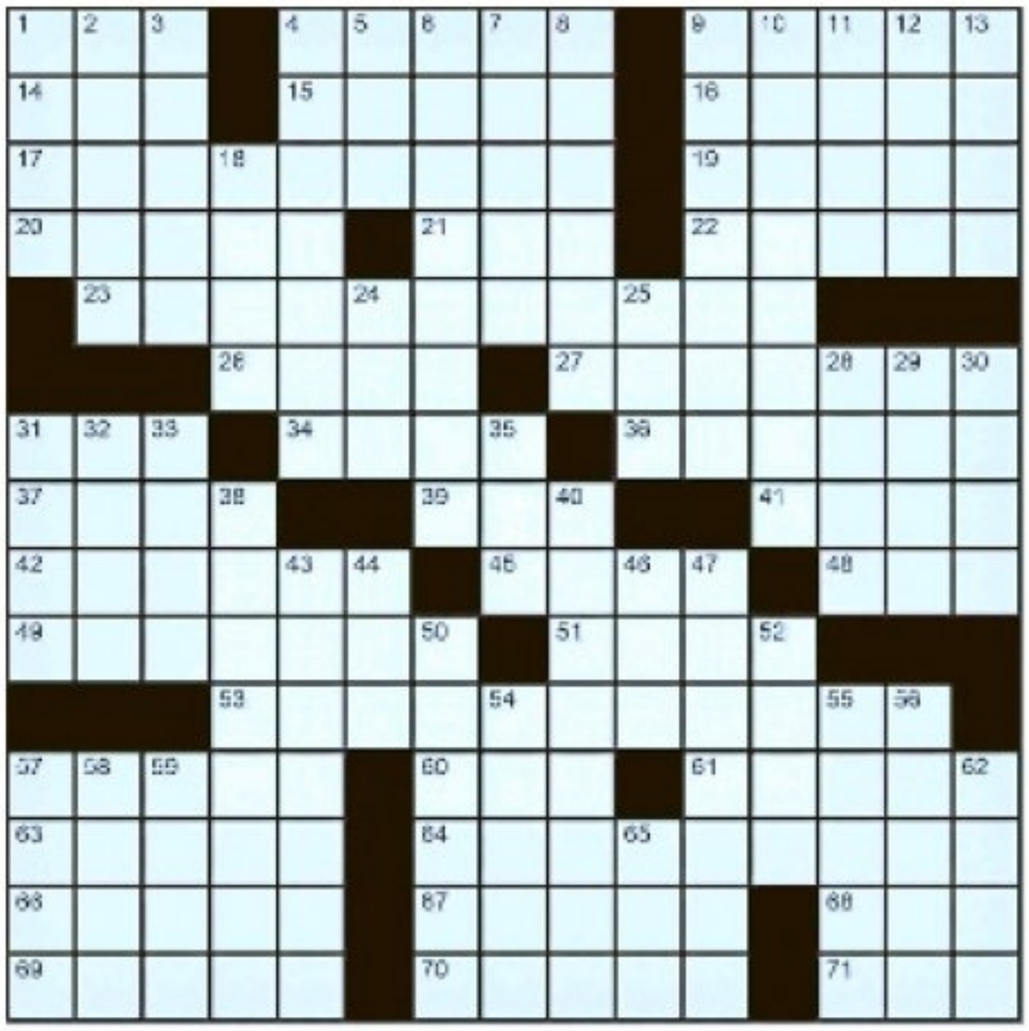
2. Add a touch of oil to your pan and warm over medium heat. Put patties in and allow to cook on one side for about 5 minutes. Flip them and cook 2 or 3 minutes before placing the cheese on top. Cover pan to help the cheese melt. Use a meat thermometer to make sure the internal temperature is 165 F.

3. Toast the buns. Spread Crema on the bottom bun, add lettuce, burger, guac and top with the bun.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Mr. Ocasek
4. Anwar _ (Former Egyptian President)
9. Bug's landing spot on a flower
14. Spanish 'bear'
15. City in Australia
16. Reflection
17. Guitar fingering notation
19. Taken-back vehicles
20. Jeweller's unit
21. Caesar's 1002
22. "_ you clever!"
23. Northern Ontario town where filmmaker James Cameron was born in 1954
26. Gladiator's 552
27. Pieces in Bryan Adams' wardrobe
31. USA state
34. Beginning as two-by-two marchers in song...
36. Handbook
37. Drug deal buster, for short
39. Mystery novelist Ms. Grafton
41. Ms. Gershon
42. Greatest extent
45. Chg. card percentages
48. Li'l Australian state
49. Ink pad user
51. Kind of freshwater fish
53. Magician
57. Finely chop
60. Impair
61. Madagascar animal
63. Construe
64. July 22nd to July 24th, 2016: Lumberjack Heritage Festival des _ (Annual bilingually-titled event in #23-Across)
66. Iowa city where 1930 painting American Gothic is set
67. Bodybuilding legend Charles
68. Mr. Bacon, to pals
69. Mustard brand
70. Looks as though
71. Clairvoyance, e.g.

DOWN
1. US campus mil. program
2. "Wicked Game" singer Chris
3. Hooded snake
4. Pancakes flipper
5. At the age of, in Latin [abbr.]
6. Music store items: 2 wds.
7. Halls-with-skylights
8. Just-one-deity believer
9. Flesh-chomping fish
10. Coming forth
11. Record
12. 1957 Igor Stravinsky ballet
13. For fear that
18. Particular Pacific patrol, puny-ly
24. "_ City" (2005)
25. Philosophy
28. Wreck
29. Treats cowhides
30. Cabbage concoction
31. Cross to bear
32. "Round and Round" rodent rockers
33. Ms. Bombeck
35. Fashion designer Anna
38. Annual pop culture event in San Diego, this year from July 21st to July 24th
40. Gird
43. Abdomen organs
44. _ Aviv
46. Howe'er
47. Overcast
50. Dances in a way
52. Casket stand
54. Lightly fry
55. Chimney plume
56. Melodies
57. Docile
58. Stagnate
59. Without wearables
62. Invitee's 'yes'
65. _ sandwich

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
A friend might throw you a curveball or do something you least expect today. However, you also might meet someone new and unusual — who knows?

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Today your relations with authority figures are a bit unpredictable. You don't know if you should stay or jump. Because you don't know, do nothing.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You will love to suddenly travel today; however, travel plans are unpredictable. Enjoy meeting people from other cultures and different backgrounds. Enjoy learning something new.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Something having to do with shared property or inheritances will be unpredictable today. Knowing this, make it a point to do your homework and be on top of things.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You might make a new friend today, or a friend or partner might do something that surprises you. This is an exciting day with lots of electricity in the air!

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Your ambition is strong today, and so is your intuition. Trust your hunches. Because you feel so independent, you might not be keen to cooperate with others. Hmmm, is this wise?

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
A sudden invitation to a social event will delight you today. Sports events might have unexpected results, because today is a bit of a crapshoot. Nevertheless, it's a fun day!

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You might buy something new and high-tech for your home today. Alternatively, something at home might break down. Grrr. That's because your home routine will have some surprises.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You're full of bright, clever, innovative ideas today. Why not write them down so that later, you can run them up the flagpole to see if anyone salutes?

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You might have a clever idea about how to boost your income today. Likewise, you spontaneously might buy something, especially something hightech, a videogame or perhaps modern art.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Today you feel ambitious, impulsive and restless! That's why all kinds of spontaneous suggestions will appeal to you. "I'm ready!"

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
This is a restless day for you, because you want something to happen and you're not sure what. But you want to break free from routine and find some new thrills.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

	1	3	8		7			
	7				6		2	3
								1
7	6							9
8							3	5
5								
9	8		3				4	
			9		8	1	7	

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